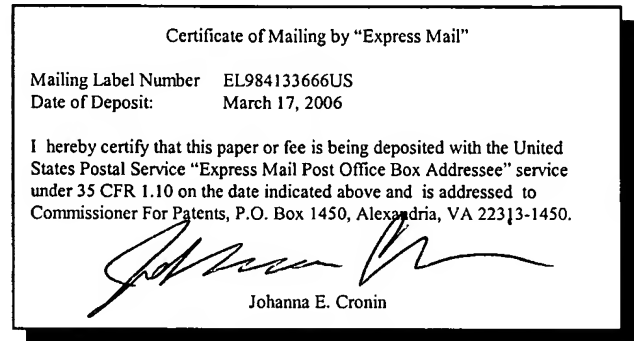


PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No.: Not yet assigned)
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Applicant: Laurent et al.)
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Filed: Herewith)
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For: A CONNECTOR)
)
Examiner: Not yet assigned)
)
Art Unit: Not yet assigned)
)
Attorney Docket No.:)
1171/44808/167-PCT-US)



PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified patent application, kindly amend the claims
as published in PCT/NZ2004/000195 as follows: